

A “First” for Wabash Valley!

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility PLUS staff were surprised and honored during a visit by Virgil Madden, Senior Policy Advisor for Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman. Mr. Madden presented PLUS (Purposeful Living Units Serve) staff with the prestigious Partner in Progress Award, the highest civilian honor bestowed by the Lieutenant Governor. The award reads:

For serving your state with an outstanding example of vision and integrity,
For working in your community for a strong environment of growth,
For standing by your friends and neighbors with a clear dedication to their quality of life,
I am proud to recognize you with the Lieutenant Governor's Partner in Progress Award.



Pictured from left: Jack Hendrix/Assistant Superintendent Re-Entry (Terre Haute) Officer Michael Sargolini (Sullivan County), Dick Brown/Assistant Superintendent Operations (Greene County), Tim Axsom/Counselor (Knox County), Michele Lincoln/Fatherhood Program Coordinator (Knox County) Jacquelyn Ray Walters Mize/Casework Manager, Diana Daugherty/Unit Team Manager (both from Sullivan County), Rich Larsen/PIO (Terre Haute) and Virgil Madden, LG Senior Policy Advisor

The honor is the first of its kind for the Indiana Department of Correction and for the IDOC PLUS program. PLUS offenders are actively involved in community, providing custom made quilts to those in need, quilts for not for profit charities which are then raffled to raise funds and through check donations to needy organizations.

PLUS participants also received special thanks from Mr. Madden on behalf of Lieutenant Governor Skillman. Madden said she was very touched and impressed by recent holiday cards designed and made by Wabash PLUS; part of the 1,500 cards made for her annual Hoosier Cheer for Our Heroes campaign. Cards were sent to soldiers away from home, either overseas or statewide, and unable to celebrate with friends and family.

Wabash Valley Superintendent James Basinger said, “Our PLUS team works hard to instill values and encouragement to offenders in the program as they prepare to not only re-enter society but to give back and contribute to their communities. I am very proud of their achievement!”

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Media Contact:

Rich Larsen
Public Information Officer
Wabash Valley Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 500
Carlisle, Indiana 47838
812-398-5050 extension 4110
812-564-0562 (cell)
rlarsen@idoc.in.gov